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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **RECEIVED**

Applicant(s): McCluskie et al.

Serial No.: 09/316,199

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For: METHODS AND PRODUCTS FOR INDUCING MUCOSAL IMMUNITY

Examiner: D. Nguyen

Art Unit: 1633

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The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 29th day of March, 2001.


Maryanne Trevisan

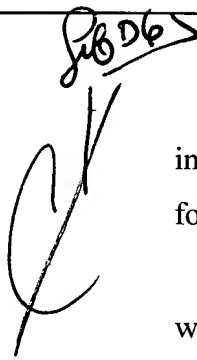
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 as follows:


1. A method for inducing a mucosal immune response, comprising:
administering to a mucosal surface of a subject an effective amount for inducing a mucosal
immune response of an oligonucleotide, having a sequence including at least the following
formula:



wherein C is unmethylated, wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , and X_4 are nucleotides, and

exposing the subject to an antigen to induce the mucosal immune response, and wherein
the antigen is not encoded in a nucleic acid vector.